

COMMITMENT, COORDINATION, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The OEP represents the capacity and efficiency cornerstones of modernization. OEP commitments include changes in technology, airspace design, airport infrastructure and new or modified procedures for aircraft crew members, airline operations personnel, FAA controllers, traffic flow management specialists, and maintenance specialists. These commitments and decisions in the OEP emerged from and continue to require the coordination of all members of the aviation community, including the airlines, airports, manufacturers, general aviation, the Department of Defense (DoD), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the FAA and the flying public.

The OEP is outcome driven with clear lines of accountability within and between FAA organizations. The newly established Operational Evolution Staff (OES) reports to the Office of the Deputy Administrator and has responsibility for the coordination and oversight of the OEP. The OEP Team -- composed of senior FAA executives, chaired by the Deputy Administrator, and with participation from the DoD -- meets weekly to resolve policy issues and engage aviation community leaders in key decisions. The DoD participates in the overall process to facilitate meeting national security requirements.

For each Solution Set, an FAA executive has been assigned to coordinate agency and industry efforts with support from cross-agency teams responsible for delivering outcomes and benefits. Performance agreements and incentives link executives, organizations and shared goals. OES members are assigned to problem clusters to ensure consistency across solutions sets. The FAA has aligned activities, budgets and schedules to achieve OEP objectives.

The DoD and the FAA enjoy a long history of federal partnership established by public law. This continuing partnership is reflected in the OEP and associated actions. FAA senior leadership and the DoD Policy Board on Federal Aviation are jointly addressing national security issues ensuring DoD training and operational requirements are met.

NASA's contribution to modernization includes a leadership role in long-term aviation research. Coordinated research on technologies to improve the nation's air transportation system is managed through the joint FAA/NASA Interagency Integrated Product Team.

The RTCA Free Flight Steering Committee has accepted the role of facilitator and coordinator of industry alignment and commitment to the OEP. Community agreement on the plan has clarified responsibilities and helped to advance a climate of accountability. Version 4.0 captures commitments and investments across the aviation community and presents the status of the operational evolution including accomplishments, decisions and discoveries.



*We must focus community investment
on shared solutions.*



This is a living plan, intended to adjust to new priorities and new technologies while fitting with other FAA strategic efforts. For example, the NAS architecture, as the comprehensive plan for infrastructure modernization, includes safety, security and research. The OEP focuses on operational changes that enhance efficiency and increase NAS capacity. The OEP serves as a foundation for planning, research, infrastructure implementation, and community action to meet future growth and the requirements for modernization.

